

THE WIDE AWAKE CIRCLE

BOYS AND GIRLS DEPARTMENT

Rules for Young Writers.

1. Write plainly on one side of the paper only, and number the lines.
2. Use pen and ink, not pencil.
3. Short and pointed articles will be given preference. Do not use over 100 words.
4. Original stories or letters; only will be used.
5. Write your name, age and address plainly at the bottom of the story.
6. Address all communications to Uncle Jed, Bulletin Office.

"Whatever you are—be that!
Whatever you say—be true!
Straightforwardly, at least,
Be honest—in fact,
Be nobody else but you!"

POETRY.

Georg.
Oy, little girl, with the ribbon hat!
Oy, little girl, with the curls just so!

What have you done with the cottony cat?
What have you done with the ball to throw?
What have you done with yesterday?
What have you done with the climbs and fun?

What have you done with the games to play?
And the races, dear, which we used to run?

Why do you leave me out, here alone,
Here with the tressad butterflies?
Have you a notion that you are grown?

Why that look in your limpid eyes?
Here is the nest, and the bird, and the golden sun.
Here are the streams, and the woods and all.
The trees you loved when the games were done.

Why have you gone away from all
The laughing games that you loved to play?
The cottony cat and the bouncing ball
And love and laughter of yesterday?

Have you a notion that you are grown,
Grown up tall, and a lady, quite?
Is that the reason I'm all alone,
And calling you in the fading light?

Dear, do you want to put childhood by,
Doing your ringlets up in a knot,
Run from the blossoms and fields and sky
And all the romps in the meadow-dog lot?

Kind away with your hands held out
To grasp the tasks that the grown-up men do?
Where is the baby with lips about?
Here is the daddy who loves you true.

Don't toss childhood aside that way!
Don't throw gladness away from you!
Hold the games of yesterday!
Come back here where the skies are blue!

Shake your curls from their shining knot,
Come and race in a headlong flight,
Through the fields and the meadow-dog lot!
Catch your childhood and clasp it tight!

—Judd Mortimer Lewis, in Houston Post.

LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Mary A. Burrill, of Stafford Springs—Many thanks for the nice prize book you sent me entitled "Grace Hopper's Third Year at Verrill." I like that series of books very much. Thank you again.

Edna Kendall, of Verrill—Thank you very much for the prize book awarded me entitled "The Years of the Hopper's in the Hills." It is very interesting.

Veronica Rochelleau, of North Franklin—I received the prize book you sent me entitled "The Motor Race Through the Sierras." I have read part of it and find it very interesting. I thank you many times for it.

Alix Dugas, of Verrill—I thank you for the prize book and find it very interesting. I read it and found it very interesting.

Lucy Henshaw, of Colchester—I received my prize book and think it is very nice. I have read it and find it very interesting. I thank you very much for it.

Thelma Boynton, of North Franklin—I thank you for the prize book and find it very interesting. I read it and found it very interesting.

THE FIRST PARACHUTE

The invention of the aeroplane is accepted today as the most significant achievement in the conquest of the air. The same attitude was held in 1783, when the Montgolfier brothers, in France, demonstrated the practicality of the balloon. It was not until 1783, when the Montgolfier brothers, in France, demonstrated the practicality of the balloon. It was not until 1783, when the Montgolfier brothers, in France, demonstrated the practicality of the balloon.

On a beautiful day of the year 1783, a citizen of Montpellier, France, out for his early morning walk, beheld a strange spectacle. Happening to pass by the house of Sebastian Lenormand, a distinguished scientist, he saw that eminent and respected man balancing himself on the sill of his first-story window. In each hand he clasped an open umbrella, the points of which were tied firmly to the handles.

The passerby was thunderstruck by the strange sight. In another moment he was even more astounded, for Lenormand suddenly jumped to the ground, and, with a shout, rushed forward; but, instead of beholding a body hurtling through the air, he saw the scientist standing in the middle of the street, smiling and unharmed, on the pavement. The parachute had been invented.

The news of Lenormand's invention spread rapidly, and it was not long before several scientific bodies had attempted experiments. Cats and dogs and other animals were tied to parachutes and dropped from balloons, and in every case they reached the ground unhurt. Interest in aeronautics waxed somewhat during the troubled days of the Revolution, so that it was not until 1795 that a man could be found who would dare to descend in a parachute from a great height. The occasion when Jacques Garnerin did make the attempt was a memorable one.

The experiment took place on Oct. 21, 1795, at the Parc Monceau. The parachute was a large, light-colored umbrella, which was attached to a basket. Garnerin, standing in a tiny wicker basket suspended from the parachute, gave the word to let go.

"I thank you for the prize book you sent me, 'The Motor Race Through the Sierras.' I have read it and find it very interesting. I thank you very much for it."

THE WINNERS OF PRIZE BOOKS.

1—Alfred Fontaine, of Verrill—The Dredgeman's Boy's World Cruise.
2—Walter Gavignen, of Williamstown—The Ocean Wireless Boys of the Iceberg Patrol.
3—Etta McGrath, of Northampton—The Motor Made by the School Days.

4—Irene Mathieu, of Williamstown—Motor Made in Pair Japan.
5—Malen Winslow, of Yantic—The Ocean Wireless Boys and the Naval Code.

6—Alice F. Burrill, of Stafford Springs—The Motor Made by the School Days.
7—Mabel Prue, of Eagleville—Motor Made Across the Continent.

8—Ferdinand Foley, of Verrill—The Ocean Wireless Boys and the Lost Lander.

UNCLE JED'S TALK TO WIDE-AWAKES.

Look out for your "rathers," for they make no end of trouble. Most boys and girls have them.

It is an unruly child who rather do what he has a mind to do than what he has been asked to do.

Perhaps you have known the boy who would rather take a horse and go to the field to do the man's work than bring washing water or keep the hens out of the garden; or the one who rather take the axe and chop wood than to pick up chips.

The girl who would rather wash the dishes than make the beds, or who rather sweep the parlor than sew patchwork.

You may not have thought of it, but rather is the guide to disobedience and the maker of trouble—he prompts you to object to doing the most helpful thing at the moment—to balk and to offend your parents.

These children get so they think they would rather die than do what they are told, but they would not. This is a false notion which has grown out of a desire to have their own way instead of trying to please their parents or guardians.

It is just as easy to wish to do every helpful little thing if a boy or girl would only think so. Studying to please is a noble occupation.

When I would rather not come into your mind and you feel the flush of obsequy just grapple with and overcome it. It means friction and more than twenty different kinds of trouble.

Rather do as your parents wish you to do, and you will not be sorry.

—Judd Mortimer Lewis, in Houston Post.

STORIES WRITTEN BY WIDE-AWAKES.

The United States is the foremost republic in the world.

The republic is governed by the people.

A country that is governed by a king is called a monarchy.

The area of the United States is three and a half million square miles.

The population of the United States is over ninety millions.

Thousands of immigrants from all the nations of Europe come into the country every year. It is wonderful how quickly these foreigners become Americans.

The president of the United States is elected by electors chosen by the people.

The laws of the nation are made by congress. The powers and duties of congress are to make laws, to coin money, to establish post offices, to make war, to raise and support armies and to maintain a navy.

Every state has two senators and a number of representatives depends upon the population.

VERONICA ROCHELLEAU, Age 14, North Franklin.

A Good Time at a Circus.

I was at a circus last week and I

saw a big elephant; and I was on the merry-go-round. I also went to the show. I saw monkey riding on a pony. The monkey was tied to a string and his master was holding it while the monkey went around the ring.

I also saw two little dogs boxing. One was named Jess Willard and the other Jack Johnson. Jess Willard knocked out Jack Johnson.

HENRY FOISY, Age 13.

Versailles.

Bees was not very rich, but she was very proud.

Bees was a younger sister than herself. This little sister's name was Mary.

Mary was just the opposite. She was very kind-hearted and humble. She had many friends. So had Bees.

When Christmas drew near, Bees was very kind-hearted and humble. She had many friends. So had Bees.

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Cunning Animals.
Rats do much damage in houses and often injure farmers' crops. They are very smart and eat all animal and vegetable substances, which if left to decay would make sickness.

Their senses are sharp and they are very cunning animals. They often use their tails to get food out of holes or jars too narrow to get their heads in.

A lady once found that her jelly jars, which were on the table, had been robbed. They were covered tightly with paraffin. On looking at them more carefully she saw that little round holes had been gnawed through the covering of each jar, and that the jelly had been stolen.

This same lady tried to poison the rats in her house by putting out their holes places of meat spread over with phosphorus paste; but, strange to say, though the meat was carried off, the rats did not touch it. They grew more numerous all the while.

After watching a long time, she at last found out that the rats were not eating the meat, but were drinking from a hydrant, from which the end being broken off, the water was running all the time.

Under the hydrant she found a piece of the meat, and she saw some of the rats carrying the poisoned meat from the hydrant to their holes.

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burst into hearty laughter and said: "I wish all your troubles were as easy to bear as broken bubbles."

HELEN COCHRANE, Age 11, Norwich.

Citizens.
Any person born in the United States, persons who have been naturalized or whose parents are, are citizens of the United States.

An alien may become a citizen by taking out naturalization papers or a woman may become one by marrying a man who is one.

Citizenship may be lost by becoming a citizen of another country, or a woman may lose her citizenship by marrying a man who is not a citizen.

MARY ELIZABETH PARKER, Age 14, Mansfield.

The Way to Obedy.
When Rollo was about five years old his mother was teaching him to be obedient.

"Well, Rollo, it is about time to go to bed," said his mother.

"Oh, mamma," said Rollo, "must I go now?"

His mother said: "Rollo, suppose any mother should say to her boy, 'Come my boy, it is time to go to bed,' and the boy should say, 'I won't go,' would that be right or wrong?"

"O, very wrong," said Rollo.

"Suppose he should begin to cry and say he did not want to go, would that be right or wrong?"

"No, Rollo, suppose he should look pleased and say, 'Well, mother, and come and take his mother's hand, and bid her good night and walk off cheerfully.'"

"That would be right," said Rollo.

"Yes," said his mother, "when a child is told to do anything, whether it is pleasant or not, he should obey at once and cheerfully."

Rollo was always an obedient child after this talk with his mother.

LETO POLKUN, Age 11, Versailles.

Lesson Points.
God sent an angel to warn a certain mother against drinking wine and strong drinks. In our day the warning does not come through an angel, but it is made as plain as if it did.

The abstinence of Samson's mother would have been a blessing to him. If he, too, had not abstained from all wine and liquor.

The boy who approves of his mother's drinking wine and liquor, is not adopting them for himself, will be little profited thereby.

Samson's mother knew anything about athletics, knows that a first class athlete must avoid alcohol as he would any other poison. It is not a matter of principle, but of sense.

Samson's father who prayed for him and a mother who practiced self-control on his account; he was born a strong and healthy boy.

Any boy, with such a start in life, should succeed.

STANLEY CONNORS, Age 11, Versailles.

The Cossacks.
Long, long ago, there came into the world a race of men who called themselves "Cossacks," from the Tartar word meaning "freemen," or "free fighters." They lived in the steppes of Russia, and were a very brave and hardy people.

The training of the Cossack boy begins when he is a child. He is taught to ride a horse, to shoot with a bow and arrow, and to use a sword.

The mother sings her baby to sleep with Cossack war songs.

When he is eight years of age, he is sent to the military school, where he is trained in all the arts of war.

After his three years of training he is sent to the army, where he is to remain until he is 50 years old.

ALFRED ROUNTAINE, Age 14, Versailles.

Beiling a Wolf.
A settler on the upper Mattawa river in Canada, who had caught a wolf, was told by some of the Indians that he should be beiled.

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